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Resolution 1932-13-15 Minnesota Thief Lake Duck Reserve

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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We recommend, however, that the Committee amend the Duck Stamp Bill so that not less than 70 per cent of the income shall be used to provide waterfowl breeding grounds and refuges.

We recommend that the several states enact adequate legislation to protect the black bass and especially to stop the sale of these fine game fish.

Whereas considerable areas of the remaining unappropriated public domain are very important as winter ranges for wild life ranging at other seasons on National Forests and National Parks, as well as furnishing year-long homes for certain wild-life species, particularly antelope and sage hens; therefore, be it

Resolved, That in any plan for the disposal or administration of these public-domain lands adequate consideration be given to the preservation of the wild life existing there and that such wild life be recognized as one of the land resources to be maintained and conserved.

Resolved, That officials give earnest and special attention to the protection of non-game birds and to cooperate actively with the experts of the National Association of Audubon Societies and local bird protective societies in their several states and provinces to the end that the public may be more thoroughly aroused to the need of preserving and increasing the general bird life of America.

Furthermore, whereas the wild bird life of America, entirely aside from its interest to hunters, is of vast economic and inspirational value to our people, and whereas it is the duty of all state conservation departments to protect such wild life both by law enforcement and by education of the general public; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in convention assembled hereby urge all state and provincial conservation officials to extend special protection to any rare or vanishing species occurring within the territory over which their jurisdiction extends.

Resolved, That the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners ask for nation-wide cooperation in a no-accident campaign in the hunting season.

Every hunter, man or woman, should be compelled to use the utmost care when using gun or rifle so as not to endanger his or her own life and the lives of others. Hunting accidents can be eliminated if proper care is used by the hunter.

Be it resolved, That effective educational programs be authorized and recommended everywhere for the purpose of teaching individuals to be more careful with gun and rifle.

Whereas the state of Minnesota has expended over \$141,000 in the restoration of Thief Lake in that state; and

Whereas there are now hundreds of thousands of wild ducks which nested on said lake during the summer of 1932; and

Whereas the State Department is making an effort to re-establish this lake as a nesting ground; and

Whereas the great number of ducks on this great area are semi-tame through feeding and protection; and

Whereas it would be unsportsmanlike to open said area to shooting as conceived by the Minnesota Department of Conservation:

Be it resolved, That the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners approve and commend the course and conduct of the State Department of Minnesota in creating and establishing the Thief Lake area, and their efforts to protect the same during the season of 1932.

John W. Titcomb, long a member of this organization, departed this life on January 26, 1932, at his home in Hartford, Connecticut, at the age of 72 years.

Mr. Titcomb's service in the conservation of wild life began at an early period in his life. He was a conservationist by nature. In 1890 he organized the Vermont Fish and Game League and later became its efficient president. His activities in this line were recognized by the Government, and in 1903 he was made Chief of the Bureau of Fisheries. He served in this capacity very ably for a few years and then returned to his first love, the Vermont work, in 1906.

His work in the Bureau of Fisheries was very valuable in that it was inspiring to the various state departments and was responsible for many of them undertaking to establish hatcheries, and in other ways promoting and formulating plans for the establishment of hatcheries and increasing the fish supply in the various waters of these states. After his services terminated with the Bureau of Fisheries he worked for a time in the state of New York as State Fish Culturist.

In 1922 he was made Superintendent of the State Board of Fish and Game of the state of Connecticut and continued his valuable labors in this work until his death, last January. Besides his many friends and other relatives he leaves to mourn his death a son and a daughter.

Mr. Titcomb was a man of strong character; he was aggressive in all of his undertakings and determined to succeed. He never undertook anything without perfectly formulating his plans and then putting his great energy behind the movement to make a success. Mr. Titcomb took such an active part in this organization that his absence will be long remembered. He was cheerful and pleasant in his social intercourse with the members of this organization, and was always ready to cooperate and assist wherever the occasion arose.

His departure brings to a close a long era in this organization and in our own lives.